

Message Text

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OES/ENP/EN:SCBLACKISTON, JR.

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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TAGS: SENV, UR, OTRA

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE;
USDEL ON HARMONIZATION OF STANDARDS

REFERENCE: MOSCOW 15454

REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT FOLLOWING LETTER TO MR. FEDIN,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE, USSR STATE STANDARDS AND
KUVSHINNEKOV OF HYDROMET. USDEL WOULD APPRECIATE IF MEMBER
OF EMBASSY COULD PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS. IN TRANSMITTING
THIS LETTER, REQUEST EMBASSY STRESS THAT FOR REASONS EXPLAINED
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IN LETTER, U.S. SIDE STRONGLY DESIRES THAT DELEGATION BE

COMPOSED OF 10 PERSONS. SINCE DELEGATION IS ON SENDING-SIDE-PAYS BASIS, SIZE OF DELEGATION SHOULD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

QUOTE

MR. BORIS V. FEDIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE
USSR STATE STANDARDS
GOSSTANDART, USSR
LENINSKIY PROSPEKT 9
117049 MOSCOW, USSR

DEAR MR. FEDIN:

I AM WRITING IN PREPARATION FOR THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE ON THE HARMONIZATION OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION STANDARDS UNDER AREA XI OF THE US-USSR AGREEMENT IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

THE FIRST SESSION OF THE JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE PROVIDED A SOUND BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC COOPERATIVE EFFORTS AT OUR NEXT SESSION. WE BELIEVE A WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF EACH NATION'S APPROACH IN ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD SETTING, ENFORCEMENT, AND ORGANIZATION IS REQUISITE TO THE NEGOTIATION OF A JOINT WORK PROGRAM. WE HOPE THAT YOUR VISIT TO THE U.S. PROVIDED THE MEMBERS OF YOUR DELEGATION AN OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE ORGANIZATIONS, GENERAL APPROACHES, AND THE LEVEL OF EFFORTS OF U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS. WE ARE PREPARED, OF COURSE, TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS ON THE U.S. PROGRAM IF SO DESIRED. DURING THE SECOND SESSION OF THE JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SIMILAR BRIEFINGS ON THE SOVIET PROGRAM BY THE RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES AT NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, AND ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN OBTAINING SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND METHODS FOR SETTING AND ENFORCING STANDARDS, AND ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. THE U.S. DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ADDITION TO GOSSTANDART AND ITS SELECTED INSTITUTES, SUCH AS THE HEALTH MINISTRY, HYDROMET, AND THE MINISTERIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE IRON AND STEEL, CHEMICAL, PETROCHEMICAL, OIL, AND PAPER INDUSTRIES. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO VISIT A

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MINISTRY AT THE REPUBLIC LEVEL WHICH HAS AN ESPECIALLY STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM. IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE WEATHER PROBLEMS AND THE REQUIREMENT THAT TWO DELEGATION MEMBERS, I.E., MESSRS. STEIGERWALD AND STROTHER, MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN MOSCOW (DECEMBER 9-11), WE PROPOSE THAT OUR TRAVEL AT THIS SESSION BE LIMITED TO LENINGRAD AND ONE OF THE BALTIC REPUBLICS.

THE U.S. DELEGATION, WHICH WILL CONSIST OF TEN MEMBERS IDENTIFIED IN THE ATTACHMENT TO THIS LETTER, WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO NEGOTIATE COMMITMENTS FOR COOPERATIVE PROJECTS OF MUTUAL BENEFIT WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF AREA XI, PROJECT 7. ACCORDINGLY, THE NATURE AND SIZE OF THE DELEGATION WAS STRONGLY INFLUENCED BY THE NEED TO HAVE DELEGATES WITH MANAGERIAL AND TECHNICAL RESPONSIBILITIES. THE U.S. SIDE WILL PRESENT FOUR PROPOSED JOINT WORK PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION. THE FIRST RELATES TO AN EXCHANGE OF DETAILED INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION ON EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AND STANDARD-SETTING AUTHORITIES, PROCEDURES, METHODS, AND CRITERIA. THE SECOND PROPOSAL INVOLVES THE EXCHANGE OF EVALUATION OF STANDARD REFERENCE MATERIALS EMPLOYED IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS. A THIRD PROJECT DEALS WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT ASPECTS OF OPERATING A STANDARDS SYSTEM. THE FOURTH PROJECT IS A COOPERATIVE STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ANALYTICAL METHODS UNDERLYING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MODIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS.

WE HAVE EARLIER PROPOSED THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION VISIT THE USSR NOVEMBER 30 THROUGH DECEMBER 14, 1974. IF THIS IS STILL ACCEPTABLE, WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

DECEMBER 2 AND 3 JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

DECEMBER 4 - 8 SITE VISITS OUTSIDE MOSCOW AREA

DECEMBER 9, 10, 11 VISITS AND BRIEFING WITHIN MOSCOW AREA

DECEMBER 12 AND 13 FINAL PREPARATION AND SIGNING OF
PROTOCOL

DECEMBER 14 DEPARTURE.

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WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU WOULD INDICATE IF OUR SUGGESTIONS ARE ACCEPTABLE AND PROVIDE US WITH A DETAILED MEETING AND TRAVEL ITINERARY BY NOVEMBER 7, 1974, SO THAT WE MAY MAKE OUR NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS. PLEASE AUTHORIZE THE SOVIET EMBASSY AT WASHINGTON TO ISSUE VISAS TO THE ABOVE DELEGATION FOR THIS VISIT. THE U.S. DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE WITH OPEN TICKETS AND WOULD APPRECIATE IF GOSSTANDART WOULD ARRANGE MODEST COST (10-15 RUBLES PER PERSON PER DAY) HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND INTERNAL TRAVEL RESERVATIONS. THIS VISIT WILL BE ON "SENDING SIDE PAYS" BASIS.

DR. STEIGERWALD, MYSELF AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE U.S. DELEGATION LOOK FORWARD TO OUR VISIT TO YOUR COUNTRY WITH GREAT PLEASURE.

SINCERELY,

SIDNEY R. GALLER
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ATTACHMENT - MEMBERS OF DELEGATION

DR. SIDNEY R. GALLER, HEAD OF DELEGATION, AND DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DR. BERNARD J. STEIGERWALD, U.S. JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE
CO-CHAIRMAN, AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AIR
QUALITY PLANNING AND STANDARDS, U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY (EPA)

MR. D. KENT BERRY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO DR. STEIGERWALD,
EPA

MR. WALTER GROSZYK, CHIEF, WATER PROGRAM PLAN AND
ACCOMPLISHMENT BRANCH, WATER PLANNING DIVISION, OFFICE
OF WATER PLANNING AND STANDARDS, EPA

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MR. DAVID H. STROTHER, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES,
EPA

DR. ROGER D. SHULL, DIRECTOR, IMPLEMENTATION METHODS AND
ANALYSIS STAFF, WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER,
EPA

DR. ROBERT MIKI, SENIOR ECONOMIST, OFFICE OF ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DR. JAMES R. MCNESBY, MANAGER, MEASURES FOR AIR QUALITY,
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DR. MARVIN W. SKOUGSTAD, WATER RESOURCES DIVISION, U.S.
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, AND REPRESENTING THE AMERICAN SOCIETY
FOR TESTING MATERIALS

MR. ROBERT B. GRANT, OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. UNQUOTE
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